

1st Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16 The day is coming when the Lord will fulfil his promises.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 25.4-5a, 8-9, 10+14 (R.1b)

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

2nd Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:12 – 4:2 Conduct yourself in a way pleasing to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 85.7

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 21:25-28. 34-36 Be ready for the second coming.

LITURGY TIMES

Saturday

Reconciliation, 5-5:45pm Vigil Mass, 6pm

Sunday

Mass, 8am, 9.30am and 6pm Youth Mass, 2nd & 4th Sun, 6pm

Monday and Wednesday

Mass, 7am (except on Public Holidays which changes to 9.05am)

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday Mass, 9.05am

Anointing Mass, 1st Fri, 9.05am

1st Friday Night Devotion

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 7.30pm

Children's Liturgy

Sat 6pm and Sun 9.30am 2nd & 4th Sun of the month (during school term)

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, **Anointing of the Sick** by appointment



VOICE FROM THE PEWS

My generation worries, as generations before, about how quickly the world is changing. We've watched technological development escalate. We see the global scope of poverty and the rising horrors of terrorism and genocide. We live in an age of constant alteration and altercation, and we are worried.

Parents today are responsible for preparing children for a future none of us can even imagine. We have no idea what questions or decisions today's children will face. Yet somehow, in the few precious years from infancy to adulthood, parents must equip their youngsters with the tools that will help them not only survive, but also do well, while revitalizing the world they inherit.

Certainly one of the key factors in facing the uncertainties of the future is belief in a greater reality, and hope in a higher power.

So much is possible and bearable when you believe in a loving God who promises not only to be with you but also in you. So much is possible and bearable when you know you are a part of something that is true and good, bigger and stronger than our chaotic world. So much is possible and bearable when you know you are not alone and can count on the support of others who will be there for you and with you. These are important truths in an uncertain world—important for grown-ups, too.

FAMILY RESPONSE:

Ask each person to share the best thing that happened to him or her this week. What was most difficult?

PERSONAL RESPONSE:

What are your hopes and concerns for the year ahead? What were the highlights from last year?

> > Judith Dunlap. Pastoral Center, All rights reserved.

The Holy Spirit Parish pays respect to the Darug People, the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather to celebrate our faith and worship God. We acknowledge with respect the elders past and present.



We are a welcoming parish. Whatever your present status in the Catholic Church, whatever your current family or marital situation, whatever your past or present religious affiliation, whatever your personal history, age, background, race or color, sexual orientation, whatever your self-esteem... you are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected by the Catholic Community of Holy Spirit.

If you are not an active member of this Community, consider sharing in what we have to offer. We serve the Community through outreach, education, social activities, sacramental preparation, youth and comfort to the sick and mourning. In addition to our spiritual and outreach organisations, perhaps you have an interest in joining one of our many liturgical ministries as: Minister of Holy Communion, Lector, Welcomer, Choir, etc.

Persons are formally registered by filling out a form that is then entered into the parish data system (information supplied remains confidential). These forms are available from the parish office or in the church foyer.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the People of God at Holy Spirit Parish is to witness to and to proclaim the word of God, and to pray and celebrate the Liturgy in word and sacraments so that we may be of service to others and form a community of "one mind and one heart on the way to God." (St Augustine)

FROM POPE FRANCIS:

"Help One Another
This is what Jesus teaches us.
This is what I do.
And I do it with my heart."

PASTORAL CARE FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Our clergy and pastoral care ministers bring the sacraments of Eucharist, reconciliation, and anointing of the sick to members who are unable to participate because of illness or aging. For more information and to arrange receiving the sacraments, contact Parish Office at 9670 8222 or admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au.



PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

SICK

Anais Nicolas, Andrew Boulos, Louis Tham, Emilia Rose Moya, Linda Allen, Giulia & Joseph Caruana, Angela Cook, Bella Tassone, Ramon Rivera, Joel Dizon, Deepa Mary Joy, Mavis Rasmusen, Cel Rivera, Anna Tran Thi Tuyet Nga, Margarita Nguyen Anh Thu, Kiengkhan Rajasombat, Sebastian Martinez, Cajetan Gonsalves, Ernedo Ortiz Jr., Luca James Rowlings, Mary Thomas, Alan Thomas, Noel Allport, John Cassar, Lyca Gem Guzman Maribbay, Michelle Caruana, Ian Urguhart, Virginia P Decena.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Bishop Bill Wright, Steven Stindl, Lulu Contemplacion, Tomas Villamor, Jun dela Pacion, David Weir, Geoff Willett.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:

Evelyn Gonsalvez, Nenu Facciol, Lionel Batcho, Esme Batcho, Rebecca Herft, Joseph Camilleri, Giacobe Nguyen Bac Nhya, Barbara Middleton, Basil Middleton, Chris Ayo, Audrey Murton, Ramesh Hiramanek, Kevin Borgonah, Bridget Borgonah, Charles Borgonah, Cecil Enos, Maisie Stevens, Ricardo Herft, George Herft, Rosalia Berin.

Names submitted to Parish for the sick list will show for 4 weeks at a time.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS & PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME

If you are a new parishioner to Holy Spirit or an existing one and you would like to participate in the Regular Parish Contribution, forms are available for completion in the foyer of the church. Please complete your details and email it to *accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au* or hand it to any of our priests. 30% of the collection is for the care of our Augustinian clergy and the 70% is for the administration and maintenance costs of the parish.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

For the care of our Augustinian clergy			546.42
For the administration & maintenance costs of the parish	Loose plate		855.68
	Planned Giving Envelopes Collected	\$	419.30
	Planned Giving Direct Debit & Credit Card	\$	772.21
	Total 2 nd Collection	\$	2,047.19
Weekly Parish's Running Costs			4,301.96
SHORTFALL/OVER		\$	2,254.77
SPECIAL COLLECTION	Bishop's Christmas Appeal	\$	623.50



We're grateful to those who continue to financially support our parish.

GOD BLESS YOU.

www.holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations



LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the Week



Any human success requires vigilance. Opportunities and powerful moments of encounter can easily be missed when we are not attentive. It is all too easy today to live distracted and preoccupied lives. There is so much vying for our attention that it can be hard to be selective and really focus. Caught up in this whirlwind of busyness and anxiety, we become tired and almost sleepwalk through life. Advent is a time to selectively focus. These beautiful four short weeks are a time to look backward and forward and be attentive to the human journey and God's revelation. From the beginning of time, God has been seeking our attention. He constantly reminds us of the justice he desires to bring and the promise of his abiding unconditional love. Understanding and growing in these truths requires alertness so that we can be strengthened in our faith and prepared for whatever will

FIRST READING: The prophet Jeremiah speaks of God's promise to fulfill the covenant made with King David, four hundred years earlier in 1000 B.C. As we enter into the season of Advent, how might you show your fidelity to God?

SECOND READING: Paul's prayer for the believers in Thessalonica is to abound in love and strength for one another in preparation for the return of Christ. How do you think communities of faith can support each other during the Advent season?

GOSPEL READING: In Jesus teaching the disciples about the coming end times and judgement day, he warns them not to be too distracted by the stresses and anxieties of daily life. How do you keep focused on your spiritual life amongst the many daily challenges we face?

BAPTISM Preparation Meeting

Parents wishing to have their child baptized are asked to contact the Parish Office prior to attending a preparation evening. Next Baptism Preparation session is on Tue 14 December, 7.30pm, at the church. Presenter is Germaine Gil.



CATELYN DOROTHY CHOA VAÑO (Daughter of Rhee and Caroline)

CHARLIE JAMES FREDERICK, AMELIA
GRACE & HARPER MAE COPPING-KNAPP

(Children of Jay & Rebecca)

RYLEE & SLOANGE CALLAGHAN

(Children of Paul & Natasha)

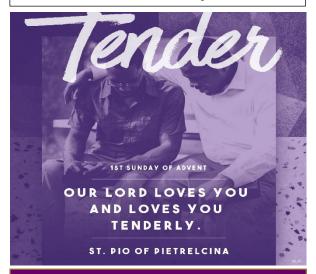
MARIA-AMELIA JORGENSEN

(Daughter of Craig & Nicacel)

WEEKLY JUSTICE CHALLENGES

This week marks the beginning of Advent. We are challenged by the Scriptures to be alert and vigilant, and to recognize that the Messiah the Jews prayed for would bring justice to our world. The first reading describes Jerusalem in the era of the Messiah as "The Lord Our Justice." Your challenge this week is to reflect on how you have helped bring more justice into the world, and to pay attention (being very vigilant) to an injustice that exists in your local community. Then decide as a household one specific step you can take to end the injustice and uphold the human rights of all.

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THE SUNDAY FLOCK





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"May the Lord strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God."

Sheepish Question:

What do I want my life to show when I stand before Jesus?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



COVID-19 SAFETY GUIDELINES COMMENCING 8 NOVEMBER

With the announcement of the easing of restrictions commencing Monday 8th November 2021, when NSW hits the 90% full vaccination target, we will observe the 2 sqm rule indoor and outdoor. Hence, we are allowed to have 300 people in the church at any one time, excluding the clergy and those involved in the liturgy. There is no need to book.

Places of worship is open to all regardless of vaccination status.

The wearing of face masks indoors is MANDATORY. Children under 12 are exempt but are encouraged to wear masks where practicable.

CONTACT TRACING:

Because NSW Government still requires contact tracing, there are two ways to do this:

- 1. Sign-in using the QR Code displayed in the foyer
- 2. Mass Attendance cards MUST be completed by each household per mass. Cards are available in the foyer.

Please be mindful of the following:

- Congregational singing is still NOT permitted. Choirs of up to 10 people can perform but all performers must be vaccinated.
- Funerals and weddings permitted with no person limit

Catholics from Parramatta Diocese are still dispensed from their Sunday Mass obligation until further notice.



With Christmas fast approaching, we are once again reaching out to you to help our families in St Clair, Colyton and Erskine Park.

We are aware of the challenges posed by Covid-19, so this year there will be no gift tags or food lists placed at the back of the church. If you would still like to assist, then a gift card or gifts would be welcome.

There will be a marked box for the gift cards in the foyer or you could drop it off at the parish office.

Gifts, if given, should be wrapped and labelled with the child's age and sex. However, we prefer gift cards.

Thank you for your continuous generosity to our parish community.



UPDATE ON THE PARISH'S RAFFLE FUNDRAISING PROJECT

Please support our Parish Raffle as part of our 40th Year Foundation Anniversary celebrations. The aim of this fundraising activity is to help our parish cover the operating cost shortfall.

Take home a book and help us sell tickets. The more tickets you sell, the more funds are raised for our parish.

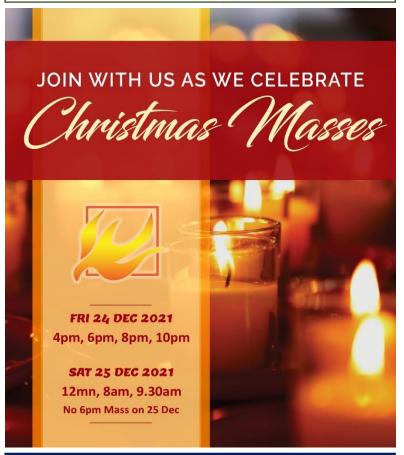
Bank: Westpac BSB: 732 278 Account Number: 556 381 Account Name: Corine Morgan & Milagros Llamas

With the easing of restrictions scheduled on 15 December, the draw date is now moved on Sunday 19 Dec 2021, after the 9.30am Mass.

Please return raffle booklets before on or before Sunday 5

December

For more information, please contact the Parish Office.





Feast of the Holy Family SUNDAY 26 DECEMBER 2021

Mass Times: 8am, 9.30am, 6pm No 6pm Mass on Sat 25 Dec

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



The Office for Worship of the Diocese of Parramatta is offering once again the

LITURGICAL MINISTRY FORMATION COURSES 2022.

This is for those who would like to become a:

- 3.READER
- 4.COMMUNION MINISTER
- 5.MINISTER AT THE ALTAR/ACOLYTE
- 6. COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND DYING

Enrolment forms are available in the fover. Please complete and return the completed form to any of our priests or to the parish office before Fri 4 February 2022.



During this giving season, you can help refugees and people seeking asylum celebrate Christmas by donating:

Longlife Milk Basmata Rice Cooking Oil Snacks

Toiletries

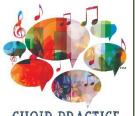
Nappies (sizes 3-6) Dishwashing liquid Laundry Powder

Drop your donations to the box provided in the fover not later than Monday 13 December 2021.

All donations will be forwarded to the Jesuit Refugee Services. Thank you.

ST JOSEPH'S MEN'S CHOIR

All males, including youth and young adults, who wish to join St Joseph's Men's Choir to sing at the 10PM Christmas Eve Mass are warmly invited to attend choir -CHOIR PRACTICEpractices on



Thursdays 9th, 16th and 23rd Dec, 7:30pm to 9:00pm

For more info, contact Lorensz, 0426 399 502

All participants need to be fully vaccinated.

Donate Your Unused Christmas Cards For Inmates To Send To Their Families

Another thing we can all do is donate blank Christmas Cards and unused postage stams for inmates to send to their families this Christmas as cards are not supplied by correctional facilities.

The Diocese of Parramatta, through CatholicCare, is collecting blank Christmas cards and unused postage stams and will be distributed to inmates and organize for their postage.

You can leave unused Christmas cards and postage stamps at a box in the church foyer not later than Sunday 5 December 2021.

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

at all Masses this weekend.

Your kind donation today will help change the lives of homeless young women who seek a safe haven to raise their newborn child. Please give generously at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal Appeal envelopes are also available in the foyer.

As we enter the Season of Advent, we encourage you to re/introduce this wonderful tradition of preparing your own Advent Wreath.

Take home with you a tri-fold brochure that explains on how to get started with an Advent Wreath. They are available in the fover.

This can help your family focus on preparing for Jesus' coming amidst the hustle and bustle of the season.







AUGUSTINIAN SPIRITUALITY



"Now (Advent) is the time of mercy, a time for us to correct ourselves. The time for judgment has not yet come. There is no need to despair. Because of our human, pardonable and more trivial sins, God has established in the Church set times for requesting mercy. We have a daily medicine in our saying 'Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us', so that we may share in the Body and Blood of Christ."

St Augustine of Hippo, Sermon 17,5

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TRY TO FIND THESE WORDS: © 2003 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd								ty Ltd					
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free	moon	nations	pleased
shaken	surprise	trap	watch

CREATION CARE TIPS

"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world..." —Luke 21:25-26

When we hear news these days of terrible natural disasters — floods, hurricanes, droughts, wildfires, etc.—it is easy to feel fearful and worried about the future of our world. Sometimes our fear can paralyze us. When that happens, it can help to do something, anything, to combat the changes happening in our climate. Rather than feel powerless, decide on at least one thing you can do to be a better steward of creation, whether it's eating less meat, reducing your car trips, touring a recycling plant, starting a compost bin, or *anything* else you can think of that reduces your environmental impact.

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WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

How are the feasts of the baptism of Jesus and the account of the wedding feast of Cana related to the Epiphany celebration?

Answer:

The Epiphany season focuses on revealing Jesus to the world. Following the Christmas celebration, the liturgical year lays out a series of manifestation points in which Jesus is made publicly known. From its very beginning, the Christian community highlighted three events in the life of Jesus. These are the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord and the wedding feast at Cana.

The Epiphany discloses Jesus to the world of the Gentiles, represented by the magi from the East. The accounts of Jesus' baptism reveal his identity and mission, along with exposing him to those to whom he was sent to minister. The miracle of turning water to wine at the wedding feast of Cana, unique to John's Gospel, is the first public sign that Jesus performs, thus manifesting his public identity and his powers.

Today in the Roman Church, these are usually celebrated on three successive Sundays: Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord which is usually the next Sunday, and the wedding feast of Cana, which is proclaimed on the 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time in lectionary year C.

These feasts connect around the concept of epiphany, public manifestation of Jesus to the world. They help us get to know more intimately who Jesus is and what he is about. Spend some time delving more deeply into your understanding of who Jesus is. Continue to cultivate these "epiphany" moments in your life. ©LPi

NEXT WEEKEND (5 DECEMBER): 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C

1st Reading Baruch 5:1-9

Take off your robe of mourning, put on the splendour of glory.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 126.1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5, 6 The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

2nd Reading

Philippians 1:3-6. 8-11 He who has begun the good work in you will bring it to completion.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 3.4, 6
Alleluia, alleluia!
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 3:1-6

John the Baptist proclaims a
baptism of repentance.

FLOWERS: Group 1 (Violet)

CLEANERS: Group 3
BANNERS: Violet

4 DEC, 6PM

Minister at the Altar

Jacob Fonseca

Eucharistic Ministers

Hazel Littlewood Mary Fonseca Jeanne Appleton

Reader 1

Moira Rebello

Reader 2 Eileen Baena

Commentator

Sheila Francis

Music

AMEN Choir

Powerpoint
Volunteer Needed

Junior Servers
Volunteer Needed

Welcomers

Sonia Oliveira Selwyn Oliveira <mark>Volunteer Needed</mark> 5 DEC, 8AM

Minister at the Altar

Gloria Slade

Eucharistic Ministers

Louise Bucholtz Ron Brackett Lisa Brackett

Reader 1

Christine Younes

Reader 2 Michael Hay

Commentator Dawn Timmins

Music

Manuel Fidow

Powerpoint Christine Younes

Junior Servers

Volunteer Needed

Welcomers

Frances Flood Angela Pecnik Volunteer Needed 5 DEC, 9.30AM

Minister at the Altar

Fred Harris

Eucharistic Ministers

Sina Carvalho Tina Fernandes Seaview Kama

Reader 1Tess Barnes

Reader 2 Ken Allen

Commentator

Cathy Allen

Music Luchie's Choir

PowerpointBoy Sanosa

Junior Servers
Volunteer Needed

Welcomers

Sue Oram Jenny Kyd <mark>Volunteer Needed</mark> 5 DEC, 6PM

Minister at the Altar

Lorensz Herft

Eucharistic Ministers

Esther Rose Lumen Decena Kate Blasco

Reader 1Robert Less

Reader 2 Iames Pirotta

Commentator Kate Blasco

Music

El Shaddai Syd Gospel

Powerpoint

El Shaddai Syd Gospel

Junior Servers
Volunteer Needed

Welcomers

Esther Rose Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF 28 NOVEMBER 2021

Mon 29 Nov: Monday of the 1st Week of Advent

Tue 30 Nov: St Andrew, apostle

Wed 1 Dec: Wednesday of the 1st Week of Advent **Thu 2 Dec:** Thursday of the 1st Week of Advent

Fri 3 Dec: St Francis Xavier, priest

Sat 4 Dec: Saturday of the 1st Week of Advent



Parish Council

Holy Spirit Parish

St Clair • Erskine Park • Parts of Kemps Creek

Under the Pastoral Care of the Augustinians

Diocese of Parramatta www.parra.catholic.org.au

Facebook Holy Spirit Parish St Clair-Erskine Park • Holy Spirit Parish St Clair Family Ministry • BASICGIFT (Youth Ministry)

Parish Office 5 Todd Row (PO Box 103) St Clair NSW 2759

P 02 9670 8222 E admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au W www.holyspiritstclair.com.au

Office Hours 9.00am to 5pm (Monday to Friday)

Priory 3 Peter Pan Glen, St Clair P 02 9834 2527

Parish Staff Parish Moderator: Fr Michael Belonio, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E mbelonio@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Asst Pastor: Fr Peter Tangey, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E ptangey@holyspiritstclair.com.au Augustinian Brother: Br. John Zhang, OSA P 02 9670 8222 E jzhang@holyspiritstclair.com.au Parish Secretary: Elisa Reynolds P 02 9670 8222 E admin@holyspiritstclair.com.au (Tue-Fri)

Parish Bookkeeper: Mila Llamas P 02 9670 8222 E accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au (Mon and Wed) SRE Coordinator (Catechists): Ken & Cathy Allen P 02 9670 8222 E sre@holyspiritstclair.com.au

Sacramental Coordinator: Germaine Gil M 0451 279 934 E sacraments@holyspiritstclair.com.au
 Parish Youth Contact: Eleanor Stuart M 0431 639 895 E eleanor.stuart97@gmail.com
 Chair: Ana Gregoriou • Asst Chair: Paola Dicenso • Secretary: Bernadette Stevens

Members: Dominic Dimech, Jamie Dowsett, Gus Morgan, Sarah Cañete-Damole, Stephen Middleton

Michael Paulo, Vince Cachia, Eleanor Stuart (BASIC GIFT Youth Representative)

Fr Michael Belonio OSA, Fr Peter Tangey OSA, Br John Zhang, OSA

Schools/College Holy Spirit Primary School (7 Todd Row, St Clair) P 02 8886 3200 W www.hsstclair.catholic.edu.au

Trinity Primary School (61 Bakers Ln, Kemps Creek) **P** 02 8856 6200 **W** trinitykempscreek.catholic.edu.au Emmaus Catholic College (87 Bakers Ln, Kemps Creek) **P** 02 9670 8300 **W** emmauskempscreek.catholic.edu.au

Retirement Vill Emmaus Retirement Village (85 Bakers Ln, Kemps Creek) P 02 8804 0200

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PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!



Support the Parish by signing up to contribute online. Setting up a onetime or recurring donation/Planned Giving is quick and easy. Visit: www.holyspiritstclair.com.au/donations. Or thru bank transfer:

Account Name: Holy Spirit Parish St Clair

Bank: CBA BSB: 067 950 **Account Number: 000 005 78**

The 70% of the collection is for the regular running costs of the parish

The remaining 30% is to provide for the household expenses of our priests and to support the ministry of the Augustinians.

If you encounter any issues signing up, please email Mila, accounts@holyspiritstclair.com.au. Thank you so much for your support of our parish!